

## Climate and Weather Summary for April 2017

Temperatures averaged well-above normal again in April. Table 1 summarizes April 2017 temperature, precipitation, and departure from normal for Abilene and San Angelo.

Site	Average Temperature (°F)	Departure from Normal (°F)	Normal Average Temperature (°F)	Total Precipitation (In.)	Departure from Normal (In)	Normal April Precipitation (In.)
Abilene	65.4°	+0.8°	64.6°	1.34"	-0.30"	1.64"
San Angelo	68.2°	+2.2°	66.0°	1.46"	0.04"	1.42"

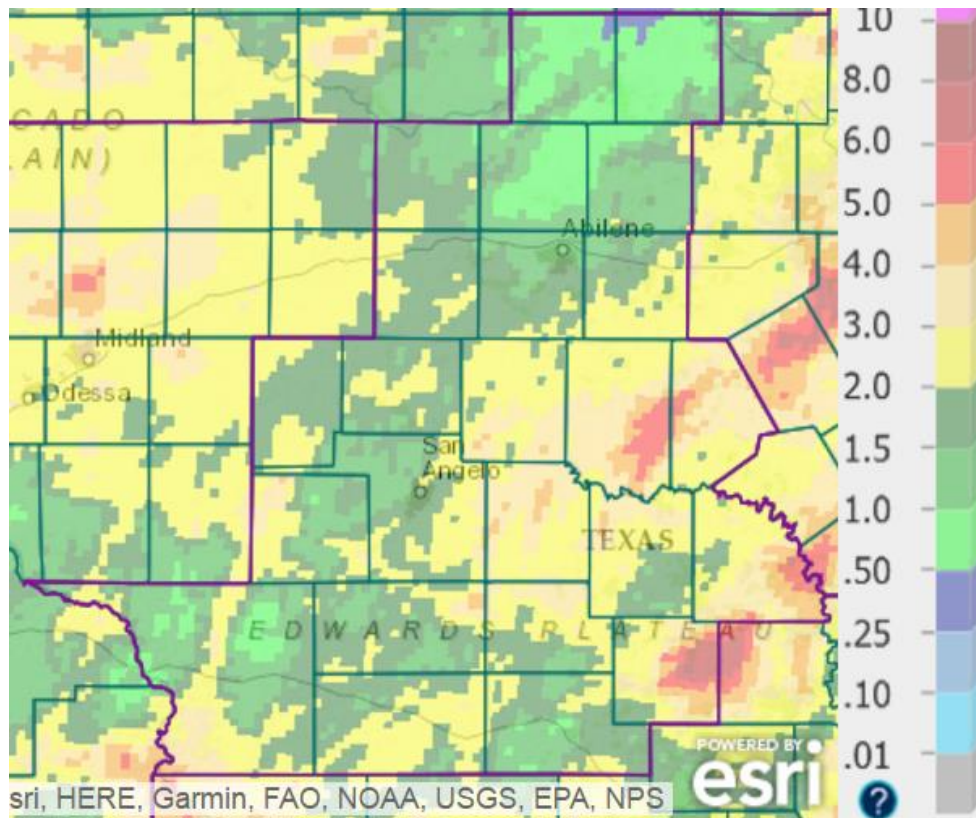
**Table 1: April Climate Data for Abilene and San Angelo.**

Additional temperature and precipitation data for Abilene and San Angelo is summarized in Table 2.

Site	Warmest High Temperature (°F)	Warmest Low Temperature (°F)	Coollest High Temperature (°F)	Coollest Low Temperature (°F)	Maximum Daily Precipitation (In.)
Abilene	95° Apr. 25	65° Apr. 25, 28	51° Apr. 2	39° Apr. 6	1.17" on Apr. 2
San Angelo	97° Apr. 28	70° Apr. 28	55° Apr. 2	35° Apr. 6	0.91" on Apr. 2

**Table 2: Additional April Climate Data for Abilene and San Angelo.**

A map of total precipitation for April is shown in Figure 1.



**Figure 1: Total Precipitation for April.**

Precipitation for April varied from well-above to well-below normal across west-central Texas (not shown). Monthly rainfall amounts ranged from less than one inch ([Big Country](#) area north of Abilene, and in a few scattered areas of Crockett and Kimble Counties), to more than 5 inches in parts of the [Heartland](#) area and eastern Mason County. Overall, the coverage of showers and thunderstorms was limited during the month. The lack of widespread coverage and locally heavy rainfall from individual thunderstorm clusters resulted in the large variation in the monthly rainfall amounts.

#### **Weather Highlights:**

A [severe weather event](#) affected parts of the northern half of west-central Texas on April 1. Heavy rainfall also accompanied the thunderstorms, and scattered areas between San Angelo and Brownwood received 3-5 inches. The Abilene Regional Airport recorded a daily record rainfall of 1.17 inches on Apr. 2. Temperatures were much cooler on Apr. 2 with considerable cloud cover. Highs were in the 50s and 60s across most of west-central Texas.

Gusty west to northwest winds occurred on Apr. 4. Peak gusts were 42 mph at Abilene and 40 mph at San Angelo.

Clear skies, light winds and a dry airmass allowed temperatures to dip into the 30s across much of west-central Texas, for early morning lows on Apr. 6. A strong warmup followed as an upper level ridge of

high pressure shifted east into Texas. Highs on Apr. 8-9 were in the mid to upper 80s across much of the area, with gusty south-southwest winds.

Widely scattered showers and thunderstorms occurred on Apr. 10, as a cold front moved south into an unstable airmass. A few of the storms were severe in southeastern and southwestern parts of west-central Texas with large hail. The largest reported hail included ping-pong ball size 6 miles east of Mason, and baseball size in western Crockett County (34 miles southwest of Ozona). Rainfall amounts exceeded one inch with the stronger storms, and parts of central and eastern Mason County received over 3 inches. The following day, a couple of severe storms produced quarter size hail in Menard County.

With the arrival of an upper level disturbance, an area of showers and thunderstorms overspread much of west-central Texas during the post-Midnight and early morning hours of Apr. 13. As these showers and storms dissipated, strong gusty winds developed and affected the Concho Valley during the early morning of Apr. 13. Peak wind gusts were: 43 mph at San Angelo, 42 mph near Mertzon, and 60 mph near Wall.

A couple of episodes of scattered showers and thunderstorms occurred across central and southern parts of west-central Texas on Apr. 15-16. Although spotty, rainfall was locally heavy with amounts ranging from one-half inch to 1.5 inches.

Warm and more humid conditions on Apr. 16. Scattered showers and thunderstorms developed east across central and southern parts of west-central Texas, on the night of Apr. 16. Locally heavy rainfall. Most of these showers and storms occurred across the area south and west of a Sterling City to Ballinger to Segovia line. Rainfall was locally heavy, with widely scattered locations receiving 1 to 1.5 inches.

Very warm to hot afternoon temperatures occurred on Apr. 20-21, when a ridge of high pressure aloft was over Texas. Afternoon highs were in the upper 80s to mid 90s across much of west-central Texas. Gusty north winds followed a strong cold frontal passage during the overnight hours of Apr. 21-22. In the wake of this cold frontal passage, temperatures were much cooler on Apr. 22-23. Clear skies, light winds and dry air allowed temperatures to drop into the 40-45 degree range for early morning lows on Apr. 23. Temperatures varied considerably during the final week of April, with gusty winds occurring each day. Highs were in the 90s on the 25<sup>th</sup>, and in the 70s to lower 80s on the 26<sup>th</sup> following a cold frontal passage. On the 28<sup>th</sup>, highs were mostly in the mid 80s to mid 90s. At San Angelo, a new record high (97 degrees) was set on the 28<sup>th</sup>, and the record high minimum temperature (70 degrees) was tied on this date. Following another cold frontal passage, highs were mostly in the 70s to lower 80s on the 29<sup>th</sup>. Early morning lows on the 29<sup>th</sup> were mostly in the 40-45 degree range.